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EXAMINER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *19 June 2009*.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *1,2,4-10,12-26 and 28-45* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) *1,2,4-10,12-26 and 28-45* is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on *06 October 2003* is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   The instant application has been assigned to a new examiner. Please see conclusion section for updated contact information.

2.   This Office Action is in response to the amendment filed 19 June 2009.

3.   Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 25 and 26 were amended.

4.   Claims 3, 11 and 27 were cancelled.

5.   Claims 34-45 were added.

6.   Claims 1, 2, 4-10, 12-26 and 28-45 are pending in this Office Action.

Response to Amendment

7.   The objection to claim 26 regarding minor informalities was addressed and is withdrawn.

8.   Applicant's amendments and arguments with respect to claims 1, 2, 4-10, 12-26 and 28-33 and new claims 34-45 filed on 19 June 2009 have been fully considered but they are deemed to be moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

10.   Claims 1, 2, 4, 12, 25, 26 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yairi et al. (U.S. 2004/0078424) in view of Kusuda (U.S. 2003/0088623) and further in view of Seme (U.S. 2003/0125927).

        Yairi teaches the invention substantially as claimed including a method and system for accessing one or more web services (WS) from a mobile terminal using an instant messaging (IM) client are provided. When the IM client requests to communicate with a web service virtual user, the IM message is routed through a mobile IM server to an IM/WS gateway, which obtains a description of the requested web service, prompts the IM client for any required web service input, and composes a web services formatted message to send to the web services provider. When the IM/WS gateway receives a response back from the web service, the IM/WS gateway translates the response into one or more IM messages and sends the IM message(s) to the requester IM client. The IM/WS gateway can combine web services to provide a higher value service to an IM user (see Abstract).

11.   With respect to claim 1, Yairi teaches a system for providing real-time communication over a global network in a session between two or more users, each of said two or more users using a device communicatively coupled to the global network (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said system comprising: a client messaging application which runs on each of a plurality of user devices, at least two of said user devices including a user device screen, said client messaging application providing a user interface displayed on each of said user device screens (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said user interface comprising: a message entry

window for a user to enter data (Yairi, Fig. 8B); a communication window for displaying

messages entered in said session (Yairi, Fig. 8B); and a selection window for accessing one

or more application agents, associated to an external application (Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph

9 and page 4, paragraph 38); thus providing an enriched communication session beyond

simple, replicated text message content (Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraphs

38-39; GPS, phonebook, calendar, web browser, email, stock ticker information); wherein

when one of said one or more application agents is activated, said external application

represented by said one or more activated application agents (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 10;

page 4, paragraph 33; page 5, paragraph 40; the web services).

Yairi does not explicitly teach one or more activated application agents is displayed on

said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application.

However, Kusuda teaches one or more activated application agents is activated to run in

conjunction with said client messaging application such that said two or more users in said

session can utilize said external application without leaving said session (Kusuda, page 1,

paragraph 7; page 2, paragraph 18-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to modify Yairi in view of Kusuda in order to enable one or more activated

application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client

messaging application. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide collaboration

between two users on one external application (Kusuda, page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

The combination of Yairi and Kusuda does not explicitly teach translating content as it is

typed into said message entry window.

However, Seme teaches a connection to said translation service application, said translation service application capable of translating content as it is typed into said message entry window (Seme, page 3, paragraphs 26, 28 and 29).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi and Kusuda in view of Seme in order to enable translating content as it is typed into said message entry window. One would be motivated to do so in order to instantly translate real-time messages such that multilingual communication is achieved between one or more computing devices without compromising the real-time user experience (Seme, page 1, paragraph 5).

12.   With respect to claim 2, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme teaches the invention described in claim 1, including the system wherein said translation service application is either a local application in any of said user's device (Seme, page 3, paragraph 25) or a service on the global network (Seme, page 3, paragraph 27).

13.   With respect to claim 4, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme teaches the invention described in claim 1, including the system wherein said activated application agent addresses said translation service application on an other side of said session via the user's message protocol (Seme, page 3, paragraph 27).

14.   With respect to claim 12, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme teaches the invention described in claim 1, including the system wherein said selection window displays any of: a list of unregistered application agents, each of said unregistered application agents

being available to be registered with said client messaging application (Yairi, Figs. 4 and 8A;

page 4, paragraph 39); and a list of registered application agents, each of said registered

application agents being immediately available to be activated by a user (Yairi, Figs. 4 and

8A; page 4, paragraph 39).

15.   With respect to claim 25, Yairi teaches a method for incorporating external resources into

an instant messaging session supported by an instant messaging system (Yairi, page 2,

paragraph 23), said instant messaging system comprising a client messaging application

which runs on devices communicatively coupled to the Internet (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23),

comprising the steps of: providing through said client messaging application a user interface

displayed on each device's screen from which a user communicates with another user (Yairi,

page 2, paragraph 23), said user interface comprising a message entry window for said user

to enter data (Yairi, Fig. 8B), a communication window for displaying messages entered in

said instant messaging session (Yairi, Fig. 8B), and a selection window for accessing one or

more application agents, each of said application agents being associated with an external

application (Yairi, pages 1 and 2, paragraph 9, and page 4, paragraph 38), the method further

comprising the steps of: activating an application agent from a list of available application

agents, wherein each of said application agents is available to be activated by said user

(Yairi, page 2, paragraph 10 and page 4, paragraph 33), thereby activating the external

application to which said activated application agent is associated, said external application

capable of providing an enriched communication session beyond simple, replicated text

message content (Yairi, pages 1 and 2, paragraph 9, and page 4, paragraphs 38 and 39; GPS, phonebook, calendar, web browser, email, stock ticker information).

Yairi does not explicitly teach sharing said external application.

However, Kusuda teaches sharing said external application between at least two users in said instant messaging session (Kusuda, page 1, paragraph 7, and page 2, paragraphs 18-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Yairi in view of Kusuda in order to enable sharing said external application. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide collaboration between two users on one external application (Kusuda, page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

The combination of Yairi and Kusuda does not explicitly teach translating content as it is typed into said message entry window.

However, Seme teaches said translation service application capable of translating content as it is typed into said message entry window (Seme, page 3, paragraphs 26, 28 and 29).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi and Kusuda in view of Seme in order to enable translating content as it is typed into said message entry window. One would be motivated to do so in order to instantly translate real-time messages such that multilingual communication is achieved between one or more computing devices without compromising the real-time user experience (Seme, page 1, paragraph 5).

16.   With respect to claim 26, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme teaches the invention described in claim 25, including the method wherein said external application is

either a local application in any of said devices communicatively coupled to the Internet or a

service on the Internet (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23).

17.   With respect to claim 28, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme teaches the

invention described in claim 25, including the method wherein at least one of said registered

application agents is associated to an interactive service (Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9, and

page 3, paragraph 25).

18.   Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yairi in view of

Kusuda in view of Seme and further in view of McMullin et al. (US 2004/0125924).

19.   With respect to claim 5, Yairi teaches the invention described in claim 1, including a

system for providing real-time communication over a global network in a session between

two or more users, each of said two or more users using a device communicatively coupled

to the global network (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said system comprising: a client

messaging application which runs on each of a plurality of user devices, at least two of said

user devices including a user device screen, said client messaging application providing a

user interface displayed on each of said user device screens (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23),

said user interface comprising: a message entry window for a user to enter data (Yairi, Fig.

8B); a communication window for displaying messages entered in said session (Yairi, Fig.

8B); and a selection window for accessing one or more application agents, associated to an

external application (Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraph 38); thus providing

an enriched communication session beyond simple, replicated text message content (Yairi,

pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraphs 38-39; GPS, phonebook, calendar, web

browser, email, stock ticker information); wherein when one of said one or more application

agents is activated, said external application represented by said one or more activated

application agents (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 10; page 4, paragraph 33; page 5, paragraph 40;

the web services).

Yairi does not explicitly teach one or more activated application agents is displayed on

said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application.

However, Kusuda teaches one or more activated application agents is activated to run in

conjunction with said client messaging application such that said two or more users in said

session can utilize said external application without leaving said session (Kusuda, page 1,

paragraph 7; page 2, paragraph 18-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to modify Yairi in view of Kusuda in order to enable one or more activated

application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client

messaging application. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide collaboration

between two users on one external application (Kusuda, page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

The combination of Yairi and Kusuda does not explicitly teach translating content as it is

typed into said message entry window.

However, Seme teaches a connection to said translation service application, said translation service application capable of translating content as it is typed into said message entry window (Seme, page 3, paragraphs 26, 28 and 29).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi and Kusuda in view of Seme in order to enable translating content as it is typed into said message entry window. One would be motivated to do so in order to instantly translate real-time messages such that multilingual communication is achieved between one or more computing devices without compromising the real-time user experience (Seme, page 1, paragraph 5).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme does not explicitly teach data transferred via said message protocol for addressing said translation service application on said other side of said session is a sequence of characters that represents binary.

However, McMullin teaches data transferred via said message protocol for addressing said external application on said other side of said session is a sequence of characters that represents binary (McMullin, page 3, paragraph 34).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme in view of McMullin in order to enable data transferred via said message protocol for addressing said translation service application on said other side of said session is a sequence of characters that represents binary. One would be motivated to do so in order to send data through a digital communications network (McMullin, page 3, paragraph 34).

20.   Claims 6, 31 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yairi

in view of Kusuda in view of Seme and further in view of Bjoernsen et al. (U.S.

2004/0174392).

21.   With respect to claim 6, Yairi teaches the invention described in claim 1, including a

system for providing real-time communication over a global network in a session between

two or more users, each of said two or more users using a device communicatively coupled

to the global network (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said system comprising: a client

messaging application which runs on each of a plurality of user devices, at least two of said

user devices including a user device screen, said client messaging application providing a

user interface displayed on each of said user device screens (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23),

said user interface comprising: a message entry window for a user to enter data (Yairi, Fig.

8B); a communication window for displaying messages entered in said session (Yairi, Fig.

8B); and a selection window for accessing one or more application agents, associated to an

external application (Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraph 38); thus providing

an enriched communication session beyond simple, replicated text message content (Yairi,

pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraphs 38-39; GPS, phonebook, calendar, web

browser, email, stock ticker information); wherein when one of said one or more application

agents is activated, said external application represented by said one or more activated

application agents (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 10; page 4, paragraph 33; page 5, paragraph 40;

the web services) and wherein said selection window for accessing one or more application

agents further comprises: one or more distinct visual cues, each of which being representative

of one or more said application agents (Yairi, Fig. 4 and 8a; page 4, paragraph 39); and said one or more distinct visual cues shown in association with contact in a contact list of a user (Yairi, Fig. 4 and 8a; page 4, paragraph 39).

Yairi does not explicitly teach one or more activated application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application.

However, Kusuda teaches one or more activated application agents is activated to run in conjunction with said client messaging application such that said two or more users in said session can utilize said external application without leaving said session (Kusuda, page 1, paragraph 7; page 2, paragraph 18-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Yairi in view of Kusuda in order to enable one or more activated application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide collaboration between two users on one external application (Kusuda, page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

The combination of Yairi and Kusuda does not explicitly teach translating content as it is typed into said message entry window.

However, Seme teaches a connection to said translation service application, said translation service application capable of translating content as it is typed into said message entry window (Seme, page 3, paragraphs 26, 28 and 29).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi and Kusuda in view of Seme in order to enable translating content as it is typed into said message entry window. One would be motivated to

do so in order to instantly translate real-time messages such that multilingual communication is achieved between one or more computing devices without compromising the real-time user experience (Seme, page 1, paragraph 5).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme does not explicitly teach associating contacts based on prior use.

However, Bjoernsen teaches an association based on said user's prior use of said application agents with said contact (Bjoernsen, Fig. 10; page 1, paragraph 6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme in view of Bjoernsen in order to enable associating contacts based on prior use. One would be motivated to do so in order to include a buddy list with popular and frequent contacts in order to allow collaboration between users over instant messaging services (Bjoernsen, page 1, paragraphs 2 and 4).

22.   With respect to claim 31, Yairi teaches the invention described in claim 25, including a method for incorporating external resources into an instant messaging session supported by an instant messaging system (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said instant messaging system comprising a client messaging application which runs on devices communicatively coupled to the Internet (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), comprising the steps of: providing through said client messaging application a user interface displayed on each device's screen from which a user communicates with another user (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said user interface comprising a message entry window for said user to enter data (Yairi, Fig. 8B), a

communication window for displaying messages entered in said instant messaging session (Yairi, Fig. 8B), and a selection window for accessing one or more application agents, each of said application agents being associated with an external application (Yairi, pages 1 and 2, paragraph 9, and page 4, paragraph 38), the method further comprising the steps of: activating an application agent from a list of available application agents, wherein each of said application agents is available to be activated by said user (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 10 and page 4, paragraph 33), thereby activating the external application to which said activated application agent is associated, said external application capable of providing an enriched communication session beyond simple, replicated text message content (Yairi, pages 1 and 2, paragraph 9, and page 4, paragraphs 38 and 39; GPS, phonebook, calendar, web browser, email, stock ticker information) and associating one or more of visual cues to a contact in a contact list of a user (Yairi, Figs. 4 and 8A; page 4, paragraph 39), each of said one or more visual cues representing one of said registered application agents (Yairi, Figs. 4 and 8A; page 4, paragraph 39).

Yairi does not explicitly teach sharing said external application.

However, Kusuda teaches sharing said external application between at least two users in said instant messaging session (Kusuda, page 1, paragraph 7, and page 2, paragraphs 18-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Yairi in view of Kusuda in order to enable sharing said external application. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide collaboration between two users on one external application (Kusuda, page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

The combination of Yairi and Kusuda does not explicitly teach translating content as it is typed into said message entry window.

However, Seme teaches said translation service application capable of translating content as it is typed into said message entry window (Seme, page 3, paragraphs 26, 28 and 29).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi and Kusuda in view of Seme in order to enable translating content as it is typed into said message entry window. One would be motivated to do so in order to instantly translate real-time messages such that multilingual communication is achieved between one or more computing devices without compromising the real-time user experience (Seme, page 1, paragraph 5).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme does not explicitly teach associating based on prior use or frequency.

However, Bjoernsen teaches association based on said user's prior use or use frequency, with said contact, of said registered application agents (Bjoernsen, Fig. 10; page 1, paragraph 6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme in view of Bjoernsen in order to enable associating based on prior use or frequency. One would be motivated to do so in order to include a buddy list with popular and frequent contacts in order to allow collaboration between users over instant messaging services (Bjoernsen, page 1, paragraphs 2 and 4).

23.   With respect to claim 33, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme and Bjoernsen teaches

the invention described in claim 31, including the method wherein said contact can be any of:

a screen name representing a human contact (Yairi, Fig. 8B); a name or a visual cue

representing an interactive service; and a name or a visual cue representing one of said

registered application agents.

24.   Claims 7-10 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Yairi in view of Kusuda in view of Seme in view of Bjoernsen and further in view of

Dickerman et al. (U.S. 2003/0177184).

25.   With respect to claim 7, Yairi teaches the invention described in claim 6, including a

system for providing real-time communication over a global network in a session between

two or more users, each of said two or more users using a device communicatively coupled

to the global network (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said system comprising: a client

messaging application which runs on each of a plurality of user devices, at least two of said

user devices including a user device screen, said client messaging application providing a

user interface displayed on each of said user device screens (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23),

said user interface comprising: a message entry window for a user to enter data (Yairi, Fig.

8B); a communication window for displaying messages entered in said session (Yairi, Fig.

8B); and a selection window for accessing one or more application agents, associated to an

external application (Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraph 38); thus providing

an enriched communication session beyond simple, replicated text message content (Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraphs 38-39; GPS, phonebook, calendar, web browser, email, stock ticker information); wherein when one of said one or more application agents is activated, said external application represented by said one or more activated application agents (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 10; page 4, paragraph 33; page 5, paragraph 40; the web services) and wherein said selection window for accessing one or more application agents further comprises: one or more distinct visual cues, each of which being representative of one or more said application agents (Yairi, Fig. 4 and 8a; page 4, paragraph 39); and said one or more distinct visual cues shown in association with contact in a contact list of a user (Yairi, Fig. 4 and 8a; page 4, paragraph 39).

Yairi does not explicitly teach one or more activated application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application.

However, Kusuda teaches one or more activated application agents is activated to run in conjunction with said client messaging application such that said two or more users in said session can utilize said external application without leaving said session (Kusuda, page 1, paragraph 7; page 2, paragraph 18-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Yairi in view of Kusuda in order to enable one or more activated application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide collaboration between two users on one external application (Kusuda, page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

The combination of Yairi and Kusuda does not explicitly teach translating content as it is typed into said message entry window.

However, Seme teaches a connection to said translation service application, said translation service application capable of translating content as it is typed into said message entry window (Seme, page 3, paragraphs 26, 28 and 29).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi and Kusuda in view of Seme in order to enable translating content as it is typed into said message entry window. One would be motivated to do so in order to instantly translate real-time messages such that multilingual communication is achieved between one or more computing devices without compromising the real-time user experience (Seme, page 1, paragraph 5).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme does not explicitly teach associating contacts based on prior use.

However, Bjoernsen teaches an association based on said user's prior use of said application agents with said contact (Bjoernsen, Fig. 10; page 1, paragraph 6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme in view of Bjoernsen in order to enable associating contacts based on prior use. One would be motivated to do so in order to include a buddy list with popular and frequent contacts in order to allow collaboration between users over instant messaging services (Bjoernsen, page 1, paragraphs 2 and 4).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme and Bjoernsen does not explicitly teach the agent automatically activated.

However, Dickerman teaches wherein whenever said contact joins said session, said application agents represented by said one or more distinct visual cues associated with said contact are automatically activated (Dickerman, pages 6 and 7, paragraphs 34-36).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme and Bjoernsen in view of Dickerman in order to enable the agent automatically activated. One would be motivated to do so in order to include a buddy list with popular and frequent contacts in order to automatically activating an agent when a user joins in order to allow a user to invite other users to collaborate with the registered application (Dickerman, page 7, paragraph 36).

26.   With respect to claim 8, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme, Bjoernsen and Dickerman teaches the invention described in claim 6, including wherein any of said application agents can be registered as a contact in said contact list of said user to create registered application agents (Dickerman, page 7, paragraph 36).

27.   With respect to claim 9, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme, Bjoernsen and Dickerman teaches the invention described in claim 8, including wherein at least one of said registered application agents is associated to an interactive service (Yairi, pages 1 and 2, paragraph 9 and page 3, paragraph 25).

28.   With respect to claim 10, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme, Bjoernsen and Dickerman teaches the invention described in claim 9, including wherein one or more registered application agents can be run in conjunction with said interactive service associated with said at least one registered application agent (Dickerman, page 7, paragraph 36).

29.   With respect to claim 32, Yairi teaches the invention described in claim 31, including a method for incorporating external resources into an instant messaging session supported by an instant messaging system (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said instant messaging system comprising a client messaging application which runs on devices communicatively coupled to the Internet (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), comprising the steps of: providing through said client messaging application a user interface displayed on each device's screen from which a user communicates with another user (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said user interface comprising a message entry window for said user to enter data (Yairi, Fig. 8B), a communication window for displaying messages entered in said instant messaging session (Yairi, Fig. 8B), and a selection window for accessing one or more application agents, each of said application agents being associated with an external application (Yairi, pages 1 and 2, paragraph 9, and page 4, paragraph 38), the method further comprising the steps of: activating an application agent from a list of available application agents, wherein each of said application agents is available to be activated by said user (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 10 and page 4, paragraph 33), thereby activating the external application to which said activated application agent is associated, said external application capable of providing an enriched

communication session beyond simple, replicated text message content (Yairi, pages 1 and 2, paragraph 9, and page 4, paragraphs 38 and 39; GPS, phonebook, calendar, web browser, email, stock ticker information) and associating one or more of visual cues to a contact in a contact list of a user (Yairi, Figs. 4 and 8A; page 4, paragraph 39), each of said one or more visual cues representing one of said registered application agents (Yairi, Figs. 4 and 8A; page 4, paragraph 39).

Yairi does not explicitly teach sharing said external application.

However, Kusuda teaches sharing said external application between at least two users in said instant messaging session (Kusuda, page 1, paragraph 7, and page 2, paragraphs 18-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Yairi in view of Kusuda in order to enable sharing said external application. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide collaboration between two users on one external application (Kusuda, page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

The combination of Yairi and Kusuda does not explicitly teach translating content as it is typed into said message entry window.

However, Seme teaches said translation service application capable of translating content as it is typed into said message entry window (Seme, page 3, paragraphs 26, 28 and 29).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi and Kusuda in view of Seme in order to enable translating content as it is typed into said message entry window. One would be motivated to do so in order to instantly translate real-time messages such that multilingual communication

is achieved between one or more computing devices without compromising the real-time user experience (Seme, page 1, paragraph 5).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme does not explicitly teach associating based on prior use or frequency.

However, Bjoernsen teaches association based on said user's prior use or use frequency, with said contact, of said registered application agents (Bjoernsen, Fig. 10; page 1, paragraph 6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme in view of Bjoernsen in order to enable associating based on prior use or frequency. One would be motivated to do so in order to include a buddy list with popular and frequent contacts in order to allow collaboration between users over instant messaging services (Bjoernsen, page 1, paragraphs 2 and 4).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme and Bjoernsen does not explicitly teach the agent automatically activated.

However, Dickerman teaches the method further comprising the step of: automatically activating said registered application agents represented by said association visual cues whenever said contact joins said instant messaging session (Dickerman, pages 6 and 7, paragraphs 34-36).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme in view of Dickerman in order to enable the agent automatically activated. One would be motivated to do so in order

to include a buddy list with popular and frequent contacts in order to automatically activating

an agent when a user joins in order to allow a user to invite other users to collaborate with the

registered application (Dickerman, page 7, paragraph 36).

30.   Claims 13-20, 22, 29 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Yairi in view of Kusuda in view of Seme and further in view of Pennock et

al. (U.S. 6,807,562).

31.   With respect to claim 13, Yairi teaches the invention described in claim 12, including a

system for providing real-time communication over a global network in a session between

two or more users, each of said two or more users using a device communicatively coupled

to the global network (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said system comprising: a client

messaging application which runs on each of a plurality of user devices, at least two of said

user devices including a user device screen, said client messaging application providing a

user interface displayed on each of said user device screens (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23),

said user interface comprising: a message entry window for a user to enter data (Yairi, Fig.

8B); a communication window for displaying messages entered in said session (Yairi, Fig.

8B); and a selection window for accessing one or more application agents, associated to an

external application (Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraph 38); thus providing

an enriched communication session beyond simple, replicated text message content (Yairi,

pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraphs 38-39; GPS, phonebook, calendar, web

browser, email, stock ticker information); wherein when one of said one or more application

agents is activated, said external application represented by said one or more activated

application agents (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 10; page 4, paragraph 33; page 5, paragraph 40;

the web services).

Yairi does not explicitly teach one or more activated application agents is displayed on

said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application.

However, Kusuda teaches one or more activated application agents is activated to run in

conjunction with said client messaging application such that said two or more users in said

session can utilize said external application without leaving said session (Kusuda, page 1,

paragraph 7; page 2, paragraph 18-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to modify Yairi in view of Kusuda in order to enable one or more activated

application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client

messaging application. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide collaboration

between two users on one external application (Kusuda, page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

The combination of Yairi and Kusuda does not explicitly teach translating content as it is

typed into said message entry window.

However, Seme teaches a connection to said translation service application, said

translation service application capable of translating content as it is typed into said message

entry window (Seme, page 3, paragraphs 26, 28 and 29).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to modify the combination of Yairi and Kusuda in view of Seme in order to enable

translating content as it is typed into said message entry window. One would be motivated to do so in order to instantly translate real-time messages such that multilingual communication is achieved between one or more computing devices without compromising the real-time user experience (Seme, page 1, paragraph 5).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme does not explicitly teach registering by dragging.

However, Pennock teaches wherein said user can register said unregistered application agent by dragging a symbol representative of said unregistered application agent from said list of unregistered application agents to said list of registered application agents (Pennock, Fig. 6; col. 6, lines 6-32 and col. 8, lines 44-54).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme in view of Pennock in order to enable registering by dragging. One would be motivated to do so in order to include register an application agent by dragging a symbol representative of said application agent in order to allow a user to select and register people to join a collaboration session (Pennock, col. 8, lines 44-67).

32.   With respect to claim 14, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme and Pennock teaches the invention described in claim 13, including wherein said symbol is an icon or a title (Pennock, Fig. 6; col. 6, lines 6-32).

33.   With respect to claim 15, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme and Pennock teaches

        the invention described in claim 12, including the system wherein said user can unregister a

        registered application agent by dragging a symbol representative of said registered

        application agent from said list of registered application agents to said list of unregistered

        application agents (Pennock, Fig. 6; col. 6, lines 6-32 and col. 8, lines 44-54).

34.   With respect to claim 16, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme and Pennock teaches

        the invention described in claim 12, including the system wherein said user can register an

        unregistered application agent by applying one or more mouse-clicking commands (Pennock,

        col. 8, lines 44-54).

35.   With respect to claim 17, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme and Pennock teaches

        the invention described in claim 12, including the system wherein the user can activate a

        registered application agent by dragging a symbol representative of said registered

        application agent from said selection window to said communication window (Pennock, col.

        8, lines 44-54).

36.   With respect to claim 18, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme and Pennock teaches

        the invention described in claim 17, including the system wherein said symbol is an icon or a

        title (Pennock, Fig. 6; col. 6, lines 6-32).

37.   With respect to claim 19, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme and Pennock teaches

the invention described in claim 12, including the system wherein said user can activate a

registered application agent by applying one or more mouse-clicking commands (Pennock,

Fig. 6; col. 6, lines 6-32).

38.   With respect to claim 20, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme and Pennock teaches

the invention described in claim 12, including the system wherein said user can activate a

registered application agent from a local application (Pennock, col. 6, lines 6-32 and col. 2,

lines 20-28; gaming utility application).

39.   With respect to claim 22, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme and Pennock teaches

the invention described in claim 12, including the system wherein said list of unregistered

application agents is automatically updated by said client messaging application (Pennock,

col. 2, lines 36-44).

40.   With respect to claim 29, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme and Pennock teaches

the invention described in claim 25, including registering an unregistered application agent

by dragging a symbol representative of said unregistered application agent from a list of

unregistered application agents to said list of registered application agents, wherein each of

said unregistered application agents is available to be registered with said client messaging

application (Pennock, Fig. 6; col. 6, lines 6-32, and col. 8, lines 44-54); and unregistering a

registered application agent by dragging a symbol representative of said registered

application agent from said list of registered application agents to said list of unregistered application agents (Pennock, Fig. 6; col. 6, lines 6-32 and col. 8, lines 44-54).

41.   With respect to claim 30, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme and Pennock teaches the invention described in claim 25, including the method further comprising the steps of: registering an unregistered application agent by applying a number of mouse-clicking commands (Pennock, Fig. 6; col. 6, lines 6-32 and col. 8, lines 44-54); and unregistering a registered application agent by applying a number of mouse-clicking commands (Pennock, col. 16, lines 10-22).

42.   Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yairi in view of Kusuda in view of Seme in view of Pennock and further in view of Bjoernsen.

43.   With respect to claim 21, Yairi teaches the invention described in claim 13, including a system for providing real-time communication over a global network in a session between two or more users, each of said two or more users using a device communicatively coupled to the global network (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said system comprising: a client messaging application which runs on each of a plurality of user devices, at least two of said user devices including a user device screen, said client messaging application providing a user interface displayed on each of said user device screens (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said user interface comprising: a message entry window for a user to enter data (Yairi, Fig.

8B); a communication window for displaying messages entered in said session (Yairi, Fig. 8B); and a selection window for accessing one or more application agents, associated to an external application (Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraph 38); thus providing an enriched communication session beyond simple, replicated text message content (Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraphs 38-39; GPS, phonebook, calendar, web browser, email, stock ticker information); wherein when one of said one or more application agents is activated, said external application represented by said one or more activated application agents (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 10; page 4, paragraph 33; page 5, paragraph 40; the web services).

Yairi does not explicitly teach one or more activated application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application.

However, Kusuda teaches one or more activated application agents is activated to run in conjunction with said client messaging application such that said two or more users in said session can utilize said external application without leaving said session (Kusuda, page 1, paragraph 7; page 2, paragraph 18-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Yairi in view of Kusuda in order to enable one or more activated application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide collaboration between two users on one external application (Kusuda, page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

The combination of Yairi and Kusuda does not explicitly teach translating content as it is typed into said message entry window.

However, Seme teaches a connection to said translation service application, said translation service application capable of translating content as it is typed into said message entry window (Seme, page 3, paragraphs 26, 28 and 29).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi and Kusuda in view of Seme in order to enable translating content as it is typed into said message entry window. One would be motivated to do so in order to instantly translate real-time messages such that multilingual communication is achieved between one or more computing devices without compromising the real-time user experience (Seme, page 1, paragraph 5).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme does not explicitly teach registering by dragging.

However, Pennock teaches wherein said user can register said unregistered application agent by dragging a symbol representative of said unregistered application agent from said list of unregistered application agents to said list of registered application agents (Pennock, Fig. 6; col. 6, lines 6-32 and col. 8, lines 44-54).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme in view of Pennock in order to enable registering by dragging. One would be motivated to do so in order to include register an application agent by dragging a symbol representative of said application agent in order to allow a user to select and register people to join a collaboration session (Pennock, col. 8, lines 44-67) and the system further comprising: means for associating an alias of said symbol to a contact in said user's contact list (Pennock, col. 7, lines 50-62).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme and Pennock does not explicitly teach alias symbols.

However, Bjoernsen teaches an association based on said user's prior use of said application agents with said contact (Bjoernsen, Fig. 10; page 1, paragraph 6) and an association based on said user's prior use with said contact, of said application agent represented by said symbol (Bjoernsen, Fig. 10; page 1, paragraph 6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme in view of Bjoernsen in order to enable associating contacts based on prior use. One would be motivated to do so in order to include a buddy list with popular and frequent contacts in order to allow collaboration between users over instant messaging services (Bjoernsen, page 1, paragraphs 2 and 4).

44.   Claims 23 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yairi in view of Kusuda in view of Seme and further in view of Dickerman.

45.   With respect to claim 23, Yairi teaches the invention described in claim 1, including a system for providing real-time communication over a global network in a session between two or more users, each of said two or more users using a device communicatively coupled to the global network (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said system comprising: a client messaging application which runs on each of a plurality of user devices, at least two of said

user devices including a user device screen, said client messaging application providing a

user interface displayed on each of said user device screens (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23),

said user interface comprising: a message entry window for a user to enter data (Yairi, Fig.

8B); a communication window for displaying messages entered in said session (Yairi, Fig.

8B); and a selection window for accessing one or more application agents, associated to an

external application (Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraph 38); thus providing

an enriched communication session beyond simple, replicated text message content (Yairi,

pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraphs 38-39; GPS, phonebook, calendar, web

browser, email, stock ticker information); wherein when one of said one or more application

agents is activated, said external application represented by said one or more activated

application agents (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 10; page 4, paragraph 33; page 5, paragraph 40;

the web services).

Yairi does not explicitly teach one or more activated application agents is displayed on

said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application.

However, Kusuda teaches one or more activated application agents is activated to run in

conjunction with said client messaging application such that said two or more users in said

session can utilize said external application without leaving said session (Kusuda, page 1,

paragraph 7; page 2, paragraph 18-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to modify Yairi in view of Kusuda in order to enable one or more activated

application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client

messaging application. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide collaboration between two users on one external application (Kusuda, page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

The combination of Yairi and Kusuda does not explicitly teach translating content as it is typed into said message entry window.

However, Seme teaches a connection to said translation service application, said translation service application capable of translating content as it is typed into said message entry window (Seme, page 3, paragraphs 26, 28 and 29).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi and Kusuda in view of Seme in order to enable translating content as it is typed into said message entry window. One would be motivated to do so in order to instantly translate real-time messages such that multilingual communication is achieved between one or more computing devices without compromising the real-time user experience (Seme, page 1, paragraph 5).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme does not explicitly teach activating agents upon inviting another user.

However, Dickerman teaches the system further comprising: wherein a user invites another user to activate one of said application agents in said session (Dickerman, page 7, paragraph 41).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Seme in view of Dickerman in order to enable activating agents upon inviting another user. One would be motivated to do so in order to include a buddy list with popular and frequent contacts in order to

automatically activating an agent when a user joins in order to allow a user to invite other

users to collaborate with the registered application (Dickerman, page 7, paragraph 36).

46.   With respect to claim 24, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Seme and Dickerman

teaches the invention described in claim 1, including the system wherein said user interface

further comprises: a system for selection by a user to initiate synchronous sharing of a

service represented by an activated application agent (Dickerman, page 2, paragraph 24 and

26, and page 7, paragraph 36).

47.   Claims 34-36, 39 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Yairi in view of Kusuda and further in view of Audu et al. (U.S. 2005/0049879).

48.   With respect to claim 34, Yairi teaches a system for providing real-time communication

over a global network in a session between two or more users, each of said two or more users

using a device communicatively coupled to the global network (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23),

said system comprising: a client messaging application which runs on each of a plurality of

user devices, at least two of said user devices including a user device screen, said client

messaging application providing a user interface displayed on each of said user device

screens (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said user interface comprising: a message entry

window for a user to enter data (Yairi, Fig. 8B); a communication window for displaying

messages entered in said session (Yairi, Fig. 8B); and a selection window for accessing one

or more application agents, a connection to said application(Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraph 38), said application capable of providing an enriched communication session beyond simple, replicated text message content (Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraphs 38-39; GPS, phonebook, calendar, web browser, email, stock ticker information).

Yairi does not explicitly teach one or more activated application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application.

However, Kusuda teaches wherein one or more activated application agents is activated, said application represented by said one or more activated application agents is activated to run in conjunction with said client messaging application such that said two or more users in said session can utilize said external application without leaving said session (Kusuda, page 1, paragraph 7; page 2, paragraph 18-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Yairi in view of Kusuda in order to enable one or more activated application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide collaboration between two users on one external application (Kusuda, page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

The combination of Yairi and Kusuda does not explicitly teach translating text to speech.

However, Audu teaches said application agent associated with a speech synthesis application running on at least one device from among the plurality of devices (Audu, pages 2 and 3, paragraphs 31-37), wherein said speech synthesis application is part of a system for speech synthesis, the system for speech synthesis comprising: a speech enabled input device

for recognizing audible human speech and translating said human speech into textual data (Audu, page 3, paragraphs 41 and 42); a screen reader for recognizing textual data in one or more applications running on said user devices and translating said textual data into human-recognizable auditory signals; and an audio output for outputting said human-recognizable auditory signals (Audu, pages 3 and 4, paragraphs 45 and 46).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi and Kusuda in view of Audu in order to enable translating text to speech. One would be motivated to do so in order to have a communication device that would tie all of this technology together in a seamless manner such that a user could select whether they want to use voice communications or text communications to communicate in real time through a communications network with a user of a remote communication device that can be a voice-and-text capable communication device (Audu, page 1, paragraph 9, and page 2, paragraph 24).

49.   With respect to claim 35, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Audu teaches the invention described in claim 34, including the system wherein said speech synthesis application is either a local application in any of said user's device (Audu, pages 2 and 3, paragraphs 31-37) or a service on the global network.

50.   With respect to claim 36, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Audu teaches the invention described in claim 34, including the system wherein said activated application

agent addresses said speech synthesis application on an other side of said session via the user's message protocol (Audu, pages 3 and 4, paragraph 46).

51.   With respect to claim 39, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Audu teaches the invention described in claim 34, including the system wherein said selection window displays any of: a list of unregistered application agents, each of said unregistered application agents being available to be registered with said client messaging application (Yairi, Figs. 4 and 8A; page 4, paragraph 39); and a list of registered application agents, each of said registered application agents being immediately available to be activated by a user (Yairi, Figs. 4 and 8A; page 4, paragraph 39).

52.   With respect to claim 44, Yairi teaches a method for incorporating external resources into an instant messaging session supported by an instant messaging system (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said instant messaging system comprising a client messaging application which runs on devices communicatively coupled to the Internet (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), comprising the steps of: providing through said client messaging application a user interface displayed on each device's screen from which a user communicates with another user (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said user interface comprising a message entry window for said user to enter data (Yairi, Fig. 8B), a communication window for displaying messages entered in said instant messaging session (Yairi, Fig. 8B), and a selection window for accessing one or more application agents, each of said application agents being associated with an external application (Yairi, pages 1 and 2, paragraph 9, and page 4, paragraph 38), the method further

comprising the steps of: activating an application agent from a list of available application agents, wherein each of said application agents is available to be activated by said user (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 10 and page 4, paragraph 33), thereby activating the external application to which said activated application agent is associated, said external application capable of providing an enriched communication session beyond simple, replicated text message content (Yairi, pages 1 and 2, paragraph 9, and page 4, paragraphs 38 and 39; GPS, phonebook, calendar, web browser, email, stock ticker information).

Yairi does not explicitly teach sharing said external application.

However, Kusuda teaches sharing said external application between at least two users in said instant messaging session (Kusuda, page 1, paragraph 7, and page 2, paragraphs 18-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Yairi in view of Kusuda in order to enable sharing said external application. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide collaboration between two users on one external application (Kusuda, page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

The combination of Yairi and Kusuda does not explicitly teach translating text to speech.

However, Audu teaches said application agent associated with a speech synthesis application running on at least one device from among the devices (Audu, pages 2 and 3, paragraphs 31-37), wherein said speech synthesis application is part of a system for speech synthesis, the system for speech synthesis comprising: a speech enabled input device for recognizing audible human speech and translating said human speech into textual data (Audu, page 3, paragraphs 41 and 42); a screen reader for recognizing textual data in one or more applications running on said user devices and translating said textual data into human-

recognizable auditory signals; and an audio output for outputting said human-recognizable auditory signals (Audu, pages 3 and 4, paragraphs 45 and 46).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi and Kusuda in view of Audu in order to enable translating text to speech. One would be motivated to do so in order to have a communication device that would tie all of this technology together in a seamless manner such that a user could select whether they want to use voice communications or text communications to communicate in real time through a communications network with a user of a remote communication device that can be a voice-and-text capable communication device (Audu, page 1, paragraph 9, and page 2, paragraph 24).

53.   Claim 37 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yairi in view of Kusuda in view of Audu and further in view of Bjoernsen.

54.   With respect to claim 37, Yairi teaches the invention described in claim 34, including a system for providing real-time communication over a global network in a session between two or more users, each of said two or more users using a device communicatively coupled to the global network (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said system comprising: a client messaging application which runs on each of a plurality of user devices, at least two of said user devices including a user device screen, said client messaging application providing a user interface displayed on each of said user device screens (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23),

said user interface comprising: a message entry window for a user to enter data (Yairi, Fig.

8B); a communication window for displaying messages entered in said session (Yairi, Fig.

8B); and a selection window for accessing one or more application agents, a connection to

said application(Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraph 38), said application

capable of providing an enriched communication session beyond simple, replicated text

message content (Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraphs 38-39; GPS,

phonebook, calendar, web browser, email, stock ticker information) and wherein said

selection window for accessing one or more application agents further comprises: one or

more distinct visual cues, each of which being representative of one or more said application

agents (Yairi, Fig. 4 and 8a; page 4, paragraph 39); and said one or more distinct visual cues

shown in association with contact in a contact list of a user (Yairi, Fig. 4 and 8a; page 4,

paragraph 39).

Yairi does not explicitly teach one or more activated application agents is displayed on

said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application.

However, Kusuda teaches wherein one or more activated application agents is activated,

said application represented by said one or more activated application agents is activated to

run in conjunction with said client messaging application such that said two or more users in

said session can utilize said external application without leaving said session (Kusuda, page

1, paragraph 7; page 2, paragraph 18-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to modify Yairi in view of Kusuda in order to enable one or more activated

application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client

messaging application. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide collaboration between two users on one external application (Kusuda, page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

The combination of Yairi and Kusuda does not explicitly teach translating text to speech.

However, Audu teaches said application agent associated with a speech synthesis application running on at least one device from among the plurality of devices (Audu, pages 2 and 3, paragraphs 31-37), wherein said speech synthesis application is part of a system for speech synthesis, the system for speech synthesis comprising: a speech enabled input device for recognizing audible human speech and translating said human speech into textual data (Audu, page 3, paragraphs 41 and 42); a screen reader for recognizing textual data in one or more applications running on said user devices and translating said textual data into human-recognizable auditory signals; and an audio output for outputting said human-recognizable auditory signals (Audu, pages 3 and 4, paragraphs 45 and 46).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi and Kusuda in view of Audu in order to enable translating text to speech. One would be motivated to do so in order to have a communication device that would tie all of this technology together in a seamless manner such that a user could select whether they want to use voice communications or text communications to communicate in real time through a communications network with a user of a remote communication device that can be a voice-and-text capable communication device (Audu, page 1, paragraph 9, and page 2, paragraph 24).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Audu does not explicitly teach associating contacts based on prior use.

However, Bjoernsen teaches an association based on said user's prior use of said application agents with said contact (Bjoernsen, Fig. 10; page 1, paragraph 6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Audu in view of Bjoernsen in order to enable associating contacts based on prior use. One would be motivated to do so in order to include a buddy list with popular and frequent contacts in order to allow collaboration between users over instant messaging services (Bjoernsen, page 1, paragraphs 2 and 4).

55.   Claim 38 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yairi in view of Kusuda in view of Audu in view of Bjoernsen and further in view of Dickerman.

56.   With respect to claim 38, Yairi teaches the invention described in claim 37, including a system for providing real-time communication over a global network in a session between two or more users, each of said two or more users using a device communicatively coupled to the global network (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said system comprising: a client messaging application which runs on each of a plurality of user devices, at least two of said user devices including a user device screen, said client messaging application providing a user interface displayed on each of said user device screens (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said user interface comprising: a message entry window for a user to enter data (Yairi, Fig. 8B); a communication window for displaying messages entered in said session (Yairi, Fig.

8B); and a selection window for accessing one or more application agents, a connection to said application(Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraph 38), said application capable of providing an enriched communication session beyond simple, replicated text message content (Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraphs 38-39; GPS, phonebook, calendar, web browser, email, stock ticker information) and wherein said selection window for accessing one or more application agents further comprises: one or more distinct visual cues, each of which being representative of one or more said application agents (Yairi, Fig. 4 and 8a; page 4, paragraph 39); and said one or more distinct visual cues shown in association with contact in a contact list of a user (Yairi, Fig. 4 and 8a; page 4, paragraph 39).

Yairi does not explicitly teach one or more activated application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application.

However, Kusuda teaches wherein one or more activated application agents is activated, said application represented by said one or more activated application agents is activated to run in conjunction with said client messaging application such that said two or more users in said session can utilize said external application without leaving said session (Kusuda, page 1, paragraph 7; page 2, paragraph 18-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Yairi in view of Kusuda in order to enable one or more activated application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide collaboration between two users on one external application (Kusuda, page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

The combination of Yairi and Kusuda does not explicitly teach translating text to speech.

However, Audu teaches said application agent associated with a speech synthesis application running on at least one device from among the plurality of devices (Audu, pages 2 and 3, paragraphs 31-37), wherein said speech synthesis application is part of a system for speech synthesis, the system for speech synthesis comprising: a speech enabled input device for recognizing audible human speech and translating said human speech into textual data (Audu, page 3, paragraphs 41 and 42); a screen reader for recognizing textual data in one or more applications running on said user devices and translating said textual data into human-recognizable auditory signals; and an audio output for outputting said human-recognizable auditory signals (Audu, pages 3 and 4, paragraphs 45 and 46).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi and Kusuda in view of Audu in order to enable translating text to speech. One would be motivated to do so in order to have a communication device that would tie all of this technology together in a seamless manner such that a user could select whether they want to use voice communications or text communications to communicate in real time through a communications network with a user of a remote communication device that can be a voice-and-text capable communication device (Audu, page 1, paragraph 9, and page 2, paragraph 24).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Audu does not explicitly teach associating contacts based on prior use.

However, Bjoernsen teaches an association based on said user's prior use of said application agents with said contact (Bjoernsen, Fig. 10; page 1, paragraph 6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Audu in view of Bjoernsen in order to enable associating contacts based on prior use. One would be motivated to do so in order to include a buddy list with popular and frequent contacts in order to allow collaboration between users over instant messaging services (Bjoernsen, page 1, paragraphs 2 and 4).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Audu and Bjoernsen does not explicitly teach the agent automatically activated.

However, Dickerman teaches wherein any of said application agents can be registered as a contact in said contact list of said user to create registered application agents (Dickerman, page 7, paragraph 36).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Audu and Bjoernsen in view of Dickerman in order to enable the agent automatically activated. One would be motivated to do so in order to include a buddy list with popular and frequent contacts in order to automatically activating an agent when a user joins in order to allow a user to invite other users to collaborate with the registered application (Dickerman, page 7, paragraph 36).

57.   Claims 40 and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yairi in view of Kusuda in view of Audu in view of Pennock.

58.   With respect to claim 40, Yairi teaches the invention described in claim 39, including a a system for providing real-time communication over a global network in a session between two or more users, each of said two or more users using a device communicatively coupled to the global network (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said system comprising: a client messaging application which runs on each of a plurality of user devices, at least two of said user devices including a user device screen, said client messaging application providing a user interface displayed on each of said user device screens (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said user interface comprising: a message entry window for a user to enter data (Yairi, Fig. 8B); a communication window for displaying messages entered in said session (Yairi, Fig. 8B); and a selection window for accessing one or more application agents, a connection to said application(Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraph 38), said application capable of providing an enriched communication session beyond simple, replicated text message content (Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraphs 38-39; GPS, phonebook, calendar, web browser, email, stock ticker information) and the system wherein said selection window displays any of: a list of unregistered application agents, each of said unregistered application agents being available to be registered with said client messaging application (Yairi, Figs. 4 and 8A; page 4, paragraph 39); and a list of registered application agents, each of said registered application agents being immediately available to be activated by a user (Yairi, Figs. 4 and 8A; page 4, paragraph 39).

        Yairi does not explicitly teach one or more activated application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application.

However, Kusuda teaches wherein one or more activated application agents is activated, said application represented by said one or more activated application agents is activated to run in conjunction with said client messaging application such that said two or more users in said session can utilize said external application without leaving said session (Kusuda, page 1, paragraph 7; page 2, paragraph 18-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Yairi in view of Kusuda in order to enable one or more activated application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide collaboration between two users on one external application (Kusuda, page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

The combination of Yairi and Kusuda does not explicitly teach translating text to speech.

However, Audu teaches said application agent associated with a speech synthesis application running on at least one device from among the plurality of devices (Audu, pages 2 and 3, paragraphs 31-37), wherein said speech synthesis application is part of a system for speech synthesis, the system for speech synthesis comprising: a speech enabled input device for recognizing audible human speech and translating said human speech into textual data (Audu, page 3, paragraphs 41 and 42); a screen reader for recognizing textual data in one or more applications running on said user devices and translating said textual data into human-recognizable auditory signals; and an audio output for outputting said human-recognizable auditory signals (Audu, pages 3 and 4, paragraphs 45 and 46).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi and Kusuda in view of Audu in order to enable

translating text to speech. One would be motivated to do so in order to have a communication device that would tie all of this technology together in a seamless manner such that a user could select whether they want to use voice communications or text communications to communicate in real time through a communications network with a user of a remote communication device that can be a voice-and-text capable communication device (Audu, page 1, paragraph 9, and page 2, paragraph 24).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Audu does not explicitly teach registering by dragging.

However, Pennock teaches wherein said user can register said unregistered application agent by dragging a symbol representative of said unregistered application agent from said list of unregistered application agents to said list of registered application agents (Pennock, Fig. 6; col. 6, lines 6-32 and col. 8, lines 44-54).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Audu in view of Pennock in order to enable registering by dragging. One would be motivated to do so in order to include register an application agent by dragging a symbol representative of said application agent in order to allow a user to select and register people to join a collaboration session (Pennock, col. 8, lines 44-67).

59.   With respect to claim 41, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Audu and Pennock teaches the invention described in claim 40, including wherein said symbol is an icon or a title (Pennock, Fig. 6; col. 6, lines 6-32).

60.   Claims 42 and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yairi in

view of Kusuda in view of Audu and further in view of Dickerman.

61.   With respect to claim 42, Yairi teaches the invention described in claim 34, including a

system for providing real-time communication over a global network in a session between

two or more users, each of said two or more users using a device communicatively coupled

to the global network (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said system comprising: a client

messaging application which runs on each of a plurality of user devices, at least two of said

user devices including a user device screen, said client messaging application providing a

user interface displayed on each of said user device screens (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23),

said user interface comprising: a message entry window for a user to enter data (Yairi, Fig.

8B); a communication window for displaying messages entered in said session (Yairi, Fig.

8B); and a selection window for accessing one or more application agents, a connection to

said application(Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraph 38), said application

capable of providing an enriched communication session beyond simple, replicated text

message content (Yairi, pages 1-2, paragraph 9 and page 4, paragraphs 38-39; GPS,

phonebook, calendar, web browser, email, stock ticker information).

Yairi does not explicitly teach one or more activated application agents is displayed on

said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application.

However, Kusuda teaches wherein one or more activated application agents is activated,

said application represented by said one or more activated application agents is activated to

run in conjunction with said client messaging application such that said two or more users in

said session can utilize said external application without leaving said session (Kusuda, page 1, paragraph 7; page 2, paragraph 18-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Yairi in view of Kusuda in order to enable one or more activated application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with said client messaging application. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide collaboration between two users on one external application (Kusuda, page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

The combination of Yairi and Kusuda does not explicitly teach translating text to speech.

However, Audu teaches said application agent associated with a speech synthesis application running on at least one device from among the plurality of devices (Audu, pages 2 and 3, paragraphs 31-37), wherein said speech synthesis application is part of a system for speech synthesis, the system for speech synthesis comprising: a speech enabled input device for recognizing audible human speech and translating said human speech into textual data (Audu, page 3, paragraphs 41 and 42); a screen reader for recognizing textual data in one or more applications running on said user devices and translating said textual data into human-recognizable auditory signals; and an audio output for outputting said human-recognizable auditory signals (Audu, pages 3 and 4, paragraphs 45 and 46).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi and Kusuda in view of Audu in order to enable translating text to speech. One would be motivated to do so in order to have a communication device that would tie all of this technology together in a seamless manner such that a user could select whether they want to use voice communications or text communications to

communicate in real time through a communications network with a user of a remote communication device that can be a voice-and-text capable communication device (Audu, page 1, paragraph 9, and page 2, paragraph 24).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Audu does not explicitly teach activating agents upon inviting another user.

However, Dickerman teaches the system further comprising: wherein a user invites another user to activate one of said application agents in said session (Dickerman, page 7, paragraph 41).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Audu in view of Dickerman in order to enable activating agents upon inviting another user. One would be motivated to do so in order to include a buddy list with popular and frequent contacts in order to automatically activating an agent when a user joins in order to allow a user to invite other users to collaborate with the registered application (Dickerman, page 7, paragraph 36).

62.   With respect to claim 43, the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Audu and Dickerman teaches the invention described in claim 34, including the system wherein said user interface further comprises: a system for selection by a user to initiate synchronous sharing of a service represented by an activated application agent (Dickerman, page 2, paragraph 24 and 26, and page 7, paragraph 36).

63.   Claim 45 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yairi in view of

Kusuda in view of Audu in view of Bjornsen and further in view of Dickerman.

64.   With respect to claim 45, Yairi teaches the invention described in claim 44, including a

method for incorporating external resources into an instant messaging session supported by

an instant messaging system (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said instant messaging system

comprising a client messaging application which runs on devices communicatively coupled

to the Internet (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), comprising the steps of: providing through said

client messaging application a user interface displayed on each device's screen from which a

user communicates with another user (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 23), said user interface

comprising a message entry window for said user to enter data (Yairi, Fig. 8B), a

communication window for displaying messages entered in said instant messaging session

(Yairi, Fig. 8B), and a selection window for accessing one or more application agents, each

of said application agents being associated with an external application (Yairi, pages 1 and 2,

paragraph 9, and page 4, paragraph 38), the method further comprising the steps of:

activating an application agent from a list of available application agents, wherein each of

said application agents is available to be activated by said user (Yairi, page 2, paragraph 10

and page 4, paragraph 33), thereby activating the external application to which said activated

application agent is associated, said external application capable of providing an enriched

communication session beyond simple, replicated text message content (Yairi, pages 1 and 2,

paragraph 9, and page 4, paragraphs 38 and 39; GPS, phonebook, calendar, web browser,

email, stock ticker information); associating one or more of visual cues to a contact in a

contact list of a user (Yairi, Figs. 4 and 8A; page 4, paragraph 39), each of said one or more

visual cues representing one of said registered application agents (Yairi, Figs. 4 and 8A; page

4, paragraph 39); and the method wherein said contact can be any of: a screen name

representing a human contact (Yairi, Fig. 8B); a name or a visual cue representing an

interactive service; and a name or a visual cue representing one of said registered application

agents.

Yairi does not explicitly teach sharing said external application.

However, Kusuda teaches sharing said external application between at least two users in

said instant messaging session (Kusuda, page 1, paragraph 7, and page 2, paragraphs 18-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to modify Yairi in view of Kusuda in order to enable sharing said external

application. One would be motivated to do so in order to provide collaboration between two

users on one external application (Kusuda, page 1, paragraphs 10 and 11).

The combination of Yairi and Kusuda does not explicitly teach translating text to speech.

However, Audu teaches said application agent associated with a speech synthesis

application running on at least one device from among the devices (Audu, pages 2 and 3,

paragraphs 31-37), wherein said speech synthesis application is part of a system for speech

synthesis, the system for speech synthesis comprising: a speech enabled input device for

recognizing audible human speech and translating said human speech into textual data

(Audu, page 3, paragraphs 41 and 42); a screen reader for recognizing textual data in one or

more applications running on said user devices and translating said textual data into human-

recognizable auditory signals; and an audio output for outputting said human-recognizable auditory signals (Audu, pages 3 and 4, paragraphs 45 and 46).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi and Kusuda in view of Audu in order to enable translating text to speech. One would be motivated to do so in order to have a communication device that would tie all of this technology together in a seamless manner such that a user could select whether they want to use voice communications or text communications to communicate in real time through a communications network with a user of a remote communication device that can be a voice-and-text capable communication device (Audu, page 1, paragraph 9, and page 2, paragraph 24).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Audu does not explicitly teach associating based on prior use or frequency.

However, Bjoernsen teaches association based on said user's prior use or use frequency, with said contact, of said registered application agents (Bjoernsen, Fig. 10; page 1, paragraph 6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda and Audu in view of Bjoernsen in order to enable associating based on prior use or frequency. One would be motivated to do so in order to include a buddy list with popular and frequent contacts in order to allow collaboration between users over instant messaging services (Bjoernsen, page 1, paragraphs 2 and 4).

The combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Audu and Bjoernsen does not explicitly teach the agent automatically activated.

However, Dickerman teaches the method further comprising the step of: automatically activating said registered application agents represented by said association visual cues whenever said contact joins said instant messaging session (Dickerman, pages 6 and 7, paragraphs 34-36).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yairi, Kusuda, Audu and Bjoernsen in view of Dickerman in order to enable the agent automatically activated. One would be motivated to do so in order to include a buddy list with popular and frequent contacts in order to automatically activating an agent when a user joins in order to allow a user to invite other users to collaborate with the registered application (Dickerman, page 7, paragraph 36).

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alicia Baturay whose telephone number is (571) 272-3981. The examiner can normally be reached at 7:30am - 5pm, Monday - Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Pwu can be reached on (571) 272-6798. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application

Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be

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system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Alicia Baturay
October 22, 2009

/Jeffrey Pwu/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2446